

Message Text

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PAGE 01 TOKYO 16081 060955Z

ACTION DOTE-00

INFO OCT-01 EA-10 ISO-00 OES-09 EB-08 L-03 CIAE-00
DODE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 PA-01 ICA-11 SP-02 PM-05
NSC-05 SS-15 COME-00 TRSE-00 OMB-01 /081 W
-----121408 061040Z /17

R 060928Z SEP 78

FM AMEMBASSY TOKYO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1004

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DEPT PASS TO DOT

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ETRN, TECH, JA

SUBJECT: JAPAN NATIONAL RAILWAYS (JNR) TECHNICAL
ASSISTANCE TO FRA NORTHEAST CORRIDOR PROJECT

REF: (A) TOKYO 15168, (B) STATE 205170, (C) TOKYO 13586

1. ON SEPT. 5, TATSUYA ISHIHARA, SPECIAL ASSISTANT TO
JNR PRESIDENT, INFORMED EMBASSY THAT GOJ HAD MADE
DECISION TO PROVIDE JNR TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE TO AMTRAK
AND THAT MOFA WAS PREPARING DIPLOMATIC NOTE ON SUBJECT.
HE INDICATED THAT GOJ WOULD ACCEPT DOT'S "VERBAL" REPLY
THROUGH EMBASSY TO MOFA AS THE NEXT STEP. PROJECT IS
EXPECTED TO COST GOJ ABOUT YEN 500 MILLION. ACCORDING TO
ISHIHARA, MOT WILL PROVIDE FUNDS FOR ASSISTANCE PROJECT
FROM FY 79 (STARTING APRIL) AND THAT JNR WOULD BEAR
FINANCIAL BURDEN UNTIL THEN.

2. TEXT OF AIDE MEMOIRE OF APPROVAL:

THE JAPANESE GOVERNMENT HAS GIVEN CAREFUL CONSIDERATION
TO THE AIDE MEMOIRE OF THE EMBASSY OF THE UNITED STATES OF
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PAGE 02 TOKYO 16081 060955Z

AMERICA AT TOKYO DATED MAY 23, INFORMING THE U.S.
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION'S INTEREST IN RECEIVING
TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE FROM THE JAPAN NATIONAL RAILWAYS (JNR)
FOR THE FEDERAL RAILWAY ADMINISTRATION'S NORTHEAST
CORRIDOR PROJECT (NECP).

THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS WISHES TO INFORM THE

EMBASSY THAT, IN COMPLIANCE WITH THE REQUEST OF THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION, THE JAPANESE SIDE IS PREPARED TO IMPLEMENT THE ASSISTANCE ACCORDING TO THE FOLLOWING SCHEME.

--1. THE ASSISTANCE WILL BE FOR APPLICATION OF ADVANCED JNR TECHNOLOGY TO NECP. IT WILL BE PROVIDED, FOR THE PRESENT, IN THOSE AREAS WHERE THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION HAS INDICATED ITS INTEREST, NAMELY, SIGNALS, COMMUNICATIONS, ELECTRIFICATION, OPERATIONS, MAINTENANCE SYSTEMS INCLUDING ROLLING STOCK MAINTENANCE AND FREIGHT-COMMUTER-INTERCITY TRAIN OPERATION.

--2. THE ASSISTANCE WILL BE STARTED IN THE CURRENT FISCAL YEAR. DURING THE YEAR, A RESIDENT JNR LIAISON OFFICER ON A FULL-TIME BASIS AND JNR TECHNICAL STAFF ON A SHORT-TERM-BASIS WILL BE DISPATCHED TO THE UNITED STATES TO GIVE TECHNICAL ADVICE. AT THE SAME TIME, ASSISTANCE WILL BE PROVIDED TO THE U.S. PERSONNEL VISITING JAPAN TO FAMILIARIZE THEM WITH JNR OPERATION IN JAPAN.

--3. MEASURES OF ASSISTANCE FOR FY 1979 AND SUBSEQUENT YEARS WILL BE CONSIDERED EVERY YEAR. SUBJECT TO BUDGETARY APPROPRIATIONS, THE ASSISTANCE WILL BE CONTINUED UNTIL FY 1982 WHEN NECP IS EXPECTED TO BE COMPLETED.

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PAGE 03 TOKYO 16081 060955Z

--4. THE COST FOR THE ASSISTANCE WILL BE BORNE BY THE JAPANESE SIDE.

--5. THE ASSISTANCE WILL BE IMPLEMENTED BY JNR.

THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS WISHES TO SUGGEST THAT THE EMBASSY CONTACT THE MINISTRY OF TRANSPORT AND JNR TO DISCUSS THE ABOVE PROPOSAL IN FURTHER DETAIL FOR ITS EARLY IMPLEMENTATION. END TEXT.

3. MINISTER OF TRANSPORT ANNOUNCED MOT DECISION TO PROVIDE JNR TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE FREE OF CHARGE AT SEPT. 4 CABINET MEETING. STORY HAS RECEIVED CONSIDERABLE PRESS COVERAGE. MANSFIELD

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Message Attributes

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Concepts: TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE, RAILROADS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 06 sep 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Format: TEL
From: TOKYO
Handling Restrictions: n/a
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ISecure: 1
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